

## Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SCCT-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /071 W

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R 071505Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6443

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

UNCLAS DUBLIN 264

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EI, UK (NI)

SUBJECT: IRA DEATH THREAT TO IRISH CABINET

REF: DUBLIN 242

1. DESPITE GOVERNMENT CONFIRMATION THAT IT HAD RECEIVED DEATH THREAT FROM IRA (REFTL) THE PROVISIONAL IRA HAS SPECIFICALLY DENIED THAT ANY SUCH THREAT WAS MADE. STATEMENT ISSUED BY IRISH REPUBLICAN PUBLICITY BUREAU FEBRUARY 6 SAYS IN PART, "MR. COONEY'S ALLEGATION THAT THE IRA HAD PLANNED TO ASSASSINATE TWO CABINET MINISTERS IS COMPLETELY WITHOUT FOUNDATION. NO MEMBER OF THE LEADERSHIP OF THE IRA MET ANY PROMINENT CLERGYMENT OF ANY DENOMINATION DURING THE LAST 10 DAYS. WE CHALLENGE MR. COONEY TO NAME THE SO-CALLED INTERMEDIARIES WHO ARE ALLEGED TO HAVE CONVEYED THIS UNFOUNDED STORY." STATEMENT GOES ON TO SAY THAT GOVERNMENT ALLEGATION IS "RED HERRING" TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM HUNGER STRIKER PATRICK WARD.

2. IN THE MEANTIME, FIVE IRA HUNGER STRIKERS WERE MOVED EVENING OF FEBRUARY 6 TO MILITARY HOSPITAL AT THE CURRAGH. NO INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE REGARDING THE CONDITION OF THE FIVE PRISONERS.

3. IRISH CABINET HAS REPORTEDLY MET IN EMERGENCY SESSION ON THREE UNCLASSIFIED

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DIFFERENT OCCASIONS SINCE PROVISIONAL IRA DEATH THREAT WAS FIRST

ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 5. ACCORDING TO PRESS, GOVERNMENT SOURCES  
EVENING FEBRUARY 6 INSISTED THAT ON TWO MAIN POINTS AT ISSUE  
BETWEEN THE AUTHORITIES AND THE PROVISIONAL IRA PRISONERS IN PORT-  
LAOISE (SEGREGATION FROM OTHER PRISONERS AND RESTORATION OF GOOD  
PARCELS) THERE WAS "ABSOLUTELY NO PROSPECT OF COMPROMISE".

4. WHILE ALLEGATIONS AND COUNTER-ALLEGATIONS CONFUSE THE ISSUE, IT  
IS APPARENT THAT GOI IS TAKING THE ALLEGED THREATS SERIOUSLY.  
AT SAME TIME IT IS CLEAR THAT PROVISIONALS -- WHETHER OR NOT THEY  
MADE THREAT-- ARE FEELING UNCOMFORTABLE OVER THE AFFAIR WHICH DOES  
LITTLE FOR THEIR ALREADY TARNISHED IMAGE.  
REND AHL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, ASSASSINATION, TERRORIST, THREATS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**TAGS:** PINT, EI, UK, IRA, (COONEY, PATRICK)  
**To:** STATE  
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